

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A fixing device ~~for mounting to a bone, said fixing device~~ comprising an operative section configured such that it can be inserted ~~screwed~~ into an object ~~the bone~~, the operative section having a longitudinal axis and including at least one guide for at least one securing element, said guide being a bore and/or recess formed in said operative section, wherein said guide opens axially toward an outer axial end of the operative section to allow axial insertion of the securing element into the guide, and a longitudinal centerline of said guide is offset from a longitudinal centerline of said operative section, whereby the securing element can be inserted into and moved axially along the guide into cooperative engagement with the object ~~bone~~ and the operative section to preclude rotation of the operative section.
2. (previously presented) A fixing device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said fixing device comprises a shaft and a head, said shaft including said operative section.
3. (previously presented) A fixing device as set forth in claim 2, wherein said shaft further comprises an intermediate section between the operative section and said head.
4. (previously presented) A fixing device as set forth in claim 3, wherein said intermediate section and said operative section have respective diameters, and the diameter of said intermediate section is larger than the diameter of said operative section.
5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said at least one guide includes a first part in the operative section, and a second part in the intermediate section ~~at least two guides~~.
7. (currently amended) A fixing device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said operative section is provided with a ~~screw~~ thread.
8. (currently amended) A fixing device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said operative section is formed as a nail and/or with edges running approximately parallel to the direction of insertion into the object ~~bone~~.
9. (previously presented) A fixing device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said operative section is tapered at its lower end.
10. (currently amended) A fixing device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said fixing device comprises a connecting element to which a further device can be attached and thereby fixed to the object ~~bone~~ by the fixing device.
11. (previously presented) A fixing system comprising a fixing device as set forth in claim 1 and at least one securing element configured for guidance by the guide.
12. (previously presented) A fixing system as set forth in claim 11, wherein said securing element comprises a threaded section.
13. (currently amended) A fixing system as set forth in claim 11 ~~A fixing device for mounting to a bone, said fixing device comprising an operative section configured such that it can be screwed into the bone, the operative section including at least one guide for at least one securing element, said guide being a bore and/or recess formed in said operative section, and at least one securing element configured for guidance by the guide, wherein said guide and said~~

securing element are formed in such ~~as a~~ way that said securing element, when inserted into said ~~guide operative section~~, exhibits substantially no play in relation to the ~~guide operative section and the bone~~.

14. (previously presented) A positioning system comprising a fixing system as set forth in claim 11 and a positioning element fixed to it, said positioning element being trackable in a surgical navigation system.
15. (previously presented) A positioning system as set forth in claim 14, wherein said positioning element is fixed to said fixing system by means of an adjustable aligning device.
16. (previously presented) A positioning system as set forth in claim 14, wherein said positioning element is a reference star.
- 17-21. (cancelled)
22. (currently amended) A fixing system for attaching a further device to an object a bone, comprising:
 - an operative section configured such that it can be ~~inserted~~ ~~screwed~~ into the ~~bone~~ object, said ~~operative section~~ having a longitudinal axis;
 - an axially extending groove formed in the operative section, said groove extending parallel to ~~an~~ the longitudinal axis of the operative section, wherein a longitudinal centerline of the groove is offset from a longitudinal centerline of the operative section; and
 - a removable securing element for insertion along the groove after the operative section has been ~~inserted~~ ~~screwed~~ in the object bone, wherein when at least a portion of the securing element is in the groove, the securing element extends outwardly from the operative section and is configured to interact

interacts with the object bone to fixedly retain the securing element in the object bone.

23. (currently amended) A fixing system as set forth in claim 22, wherein the operative section is externally threaded for screwing into the object bone, and the removable securing element interacts with the groove to prevent rotation of the operative section relative to the object bone.
24. (previously presented) A fixing system as set forth in claim 23, wherein the securing element has an externally threaded portion that interacts with the groove.
25. (previously presented) A fixing system as set forth in claim 23, wherein the operative section has external threads, and the groove intersects the threads.